

near Aquia Creek, where it remained until October, when it was sent to the Potomac batteries blockading that river. Whilst stationed here the battery was busily engaged for awhile mounting guns at the Ship Point Batteries. The boys had altogether a pretty good time here, and they improved their practice wonderfully, for many a saucy craft tried to run the blockade, and came to grief from the accurate fire of the First Maryland Artillery.

The battery remained on the Potomac until the following March, and when Johnston fell back from Manassas it was sent to Fredericksburg, and encamped on the south side of the Rappahannock.

The battery was now attached to General Pettigrew's Brigade, and in a review by General Joseph E. Johnston he paid it a high compliment for its neat and soldierly appearance.

From Fredericksburg the battery was sent to Ashland, and in a few days after to Yorktown, where it remained until the evacuation of that place. From Yorktown the First fell back to Williamsburg, and from there was sent to assist Hood at West Point, but was held as a reserve battery. From there the battery went to Poor's farm, near Richmond, and when the terrible battle of Seven Pines took place, part of the First was actively engaged.

At Mechanicsville, on June 26, the First Maryland had the first opportunity to show of what material it was composed. The battery was hotly engaged, and lost heavily in men and horses. The gallant Andrews was severely wounded, but did not leave the field. That battle won for Captain Andrews his star, and for the battery most honorable mention in official reports.

The glorious Dement now assumed command of the battery, with which he was destined to carve out a name, and his command a reputation, second to no commander and no artillery command in the service.

We next find the battery, on the following day, at Gaines' Mill, in the hottest of that dreadful battle of the Seven Days' series, when blood flowed like water ; and next at Frazier's Farm, and then at Malvern Hill.

Oh ! those were seven fearful days, and brave men willingly died by thousands ; but a great sigh of relief went up throughout the South when it was announced that McClellan and his vast array had been driven to the shelter of his gunboats on the James, and the siege of Richmond was raised.

After the battle of Malvern Hill Lieutenant Dement received his commission as Captain, and at the same time there was assigned to the battery by the War Department Lieutenant John Gale, who subsequently proved himself to be a most efficient officer.

The author has forgotten to state that the brigade to which the battery was attached was now commanded by General Pender, General Pettigrew having been wounded at Seven Pines. To these brave officers the men of the battery